

**Thomas Jefferson to James Madison, May 12, 1800,
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Leicester Ford.**

TO JAMES MADISON J. MSS.

Philadelphia, May 12, [1800.]

Dear Sir, —Congress will rise to-day or to-morrow. Mr. Nicholas proposing to call on you, you will get from him the Congressional news. On the whole, the federalists have not been able to carry a single strong measure in the lower house the whole session. When they met, it was believed they had a majority of 20; but many of these were new & moderate men, & soon saw the true character of the party to which they had been well disposed while at a distance. The tide, too, of public opinion sets so strongly against the federal proceedings, that this melted off their majority, & dismayed the heroes of the party. The Senate alone remained undismayed to the last. Firm to their purposes, regardless of public opinion, and more disposed to coerce than to court it, not a man of their majority gave way in the least; and on the electoral bill they *adhered* to John Marshal's amendment, by their whole number: & if there had been a full Senate, there would have been but II. votes against it, which includes H. Marshall, who has voted with the republicans this session. * *

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